

## **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT REGION 8**

### **WEEK ENDING JULY 17, 2009**

#### **OFFICE OF ECOSYSTEMS PROTECTION AND REMEDIATION**

**(WITHIN 30 DAYS)**

**\*LIBBY ASBESTOS SUPEFUND SITE – EROSION OF CAP ON OPERABLE**

**UNIT 1:** On June 26, 2009, the EPA Libby Office was notified that the pump which is used to fill water trucks near the boat ramp and located on OU1 was left on. This caused water to flow down the boat ramp causing erosion, exposing the orange fencing material that marks the extent of removal action taken at the site. EPA repaired the damage to the cap on the day it was reported. The repair included compacting structural rock to prevent this from happening in the future. A reportable release of asbestos to the Kootenai River did not occur.

**Contact: Victor Ketellapper, 312-6578 and Mike Cirian, 406-293-6194**

**(WITHIN 30 DAYS)**

**\*LIBBY ASBESTOS SUPERFUND SITE, OPERABLE UNIT 5, STIMSON LUMBER:**

Economic redevelopment is proceeding at a portion of the former Stimson Lumber property. Stinger Welding, a manufactured bridge building enterprise, has broken ground on construction of a new facility. They are using the Central Maintenance Building, also on the Stimson Lumber property, for temporary administrative and construction space. Stinger is currently hiring staff for their Libby, Montana operations. On July 27<sup>th</sup>, the governor of Montana will be in Libby to participate in a ground-breaking ceremony for the project.

Victor Ketellapper will attend to represent EPA.

**Contact: Rebecca Thomas, 312-6552**

**(WITHIN 30 DAYS)**

**\*LIBBY ASBESTOS SUPERFUND SITE – CITY/COUNTY HEALTH BOARD:** The Lincoln County Health Board has reorganized to include representation from the City of Libby. The City/County Health Board is to provide the primary point of contact between the public and the EPA and is planning to include input from the various community groups including the CAG and TAG. The Health Board has provided EPA with a list of 18 questions regarding the Libby Asbestos Superfund Site. EPA is in the process of responding to these 18 questions.

**Contact: Victor Ketellapper, 312-6578**

#### **OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT, COMPLIANCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

**\*Enforcement Confidential items are reported in the Weekly Hot Issues Report for the RA/DRA.**

## **OFFICE OF PARTNERSHIPS AND REGULATORY ASSISTANCE**

### **\*AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA), DERA GRANTS:**

The Air Program is currently collecting the first quarter reports and accomplishments for the six ARRA DERA State grants awarded. Seven of the 9 competitive grants selected have been approved by the White House for award. We are still awaiting White House approval of two of the grants.

**Contacts: Rebecca Russo, 312-6757; Deborah Lebow Aal, 312-6223**

### **\*AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA), REGION 8,**

**TRIBAL SET-ASIDE SUMMARY:** The press release for the ARRA funds was issued on July 9, 2009 and printed in the Cortez Journal, Salt Lake Tribune, Great Falls Tribune and Denver Post. We received phone calls from Hope Neilson of the Cortez Journal, Ms. Miley of the Salt Lake Tribune and Dr. Dave of GeoTech, Inc, in Colorado. Copies of the press release were sent to IHS Area Offices in Region 8. Our goal is to continue to work with EPA HQ and IHS in implementing the program. *Information only; no action required by RA/DRA.*

**Contacts: Diane Sanelli, 312-7822; Minnie Adams, 312-6624**

### **\*AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) REGION 8**

**STATE REVOLVING FUND:** The past several weeks have been spent reviewing the states' documentation around Green Project Reserve. We are also participating in webcasts, phone calls, and conference calls on ARRA reporting requirements, Buy American, and Davis Bacon. We expect to begin training state SRF staff on the additional reporting elements for project information associated with ARRA soon. EPA HQ CWSRF Program staff is visiting all states to review ARRA activities; visits to Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota are planned for the week of July 20. SRF staff is attending a CWSRF strategic planning conference in Chicago July 13-15, 2009.

The status of grant awards: Colorado's DW ARRA grant and Utah's CW ARRA will be awarded July 14. *Information only - no action required by the RA.*

**Contacts: Diane Sanelli, 312-7822; Brian Friel, 303-312-6277**

### **\*AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA)-REGION 8 LUST**

**PROGRAM:** The Region 8 LUST Program has awarded all of the LUST ARRA Cooperative Agreements to Colorado, Montana, South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. The Region issued a press release on July 9, 2009, with this announcement. No national press release is anticipated. We are participating in webcasts, phone calls, and conference calls on ARRA reporting requirements, Buy American, and Davis Bacon. We expect to begin training state LUST staff on the additional reporting elements for project information associated with ARRA soon. The LUST Davis-Bacon Terms & Conditions were finalized by HQ on July 13, 2009. All of the regional awards will be modified to reflect the final terms and conditions. Region 8 continues to develop projects for its regional tribal contracts. *Information only - no action required by the RA.*

**Contacts: Janice Pearson, 312-6354; Steven Pratt, 312-6575**